

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ROBERT ALLEN KLICHER

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Robert "Bob" Allen Klicker, the third-generation owner of Klicker's Strawberry Acres in Walla Walla, Washington. Bob was the definition of a hardworking American, passionate family man, and inspiring leader in his community. He lived an extraordinary 95 years, and every day, he proved his passion and love for those around him. A rancher, farmer, innovator, and entrepreneur, Bob leaves behind him a legacy that will never be forgotten.

Bob's passion for helping others began as he grew up working on the family homestead with his 5 siblings. He was inducted into his high school's Blue Devil Hall of Fame for his accomplishments in baseball, football, and track. After graduating high school in 1944, Bob served our country overseas in Guam as a servicemember in the U.S. Navy. Upon returning home, Bob met and married the love of his life, Nancy, with whom he went on to raise a family with for 67 years.

Bob loved hunting, horseback riding, hiking, and working in the Blue Mountains. Ever the trailblazer, Bob was known for trying new ideas in farming and expanding his family's business venture. He truly believed that growing the Klicker Strawberry enterprise would impact the Walla Walla community, and he was right. Over the years, Bob gave countless kids the opportunity to work on the strawberry farm and learn valuable skills that will last them a lifetime. Despite Bob's passing, these lessons continue to this very day, as the fourth generation of Klickers is keeping up with the tradition of providing work opportunities for local high school students. Bob's legacy will live on as his son, Kirk, and his daughter-in-law, Nancy, continue the family business.

Bob joined his family and his Savior Jesus in Heaven on September 9, 2022. He was a trusted friend and advisor to me throughout the years, and I will miss him dearly. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the wonderful life of Bob Klicker.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF RALPH J. NEVALA

HON. GUY RESCIENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Mr. RESCIENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Ralph J. Nevala, 83, of California, Pennsylvania, who was called home to his eternal reward by his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Sunday, June 5, 2022.

Born on February 28, 1939, the son of the late Weikko and Esther Oberg Nevala, Ralph spent his childhood on the Nevala Dairy Farm and was part of the California High School class of 1957.

Ralph met Marion Ferrer while delivering milk from Nevala Dairy Farm to her neighborhood in Monessen. They were married on August 23, 1958, raised two sons on the family farm, and celebrated almost fifty-nine years of marriage together.

In 1968, Ralph graduated from the Pennsylvania State Police Academy and honorably served the Commonwealth for nineteen years as a Trooper with the Vice Unit of the Bureau of Criminal Intelligence. During his distinguished career, Ralph was responsible for the arrests of perpetrators of the "Triple Six Fix," the 1980 Pennsylvania Lottery scandal. His undercover work paved the way for justice on the high-profile case. Ralph's years of service in criminal intelligence also led to the crack-down on prostitution rings from Erie to Pittsburgh.

Following his service with the Pennsylvania State Police, Ralph converted Nevala Dairy Farm into a beef cattle operation that specialized in breeding Hereford bulls and Angus cows. He worked on the farm until his retirement in 2017. Ralph was also a longtime member of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. This work led to lobbying lawmakers in both Harrisburg and Washington, underscoring the importance he placed in continued service to the farming community.

Ralph was an avid deer hunter and member of the Charleoi Sportsman Club. He also served the public as a State Deputy Game Warden. During the summers, Ralph enjoyed spending time with his grandsons on the farm and traveling to Washington, D.C., and the Carolinas.

Ralph was preceded in death by his parents and his loving wife, Marion Nevala.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the life and legacy of Ralph J. Nevala. May we aspire to live by his example of public service and devotion to family and community.

CELEBRATING CLAY PHILLIPS' LIFETIME OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my longtime Chief of Staff Clay Phillips who is retiring at the end of this Congress. I thank him for his tremendous career of public service, including 16 years of service in the chief of staff role. There are few people in the Tampa area who have not worked with Clay. And I'm grateful for all the work that he has done to ensure that veterans receive the benefits that they have earned, to ensure that our neighbors were able to stay in their homes during the foreclosure crisis, and

all of his work on affordable health care and for social justice. He has always stood up for the voiceless, and as President Kennedy encouraged: "Let public service be a proud and lively career." Clay's career was both proud and lively.

A proud son of Florida, Clay attended Rollins College on a baseball scholarship before heading to University of Florida's College of Law where he earned his law degree.

From working on his first presidential campaign in 1975 to serving former Congressman Jim Davis in Tallahassee and Tampa, Clay has dedicated his life to paving a more prosperous country and community. He has played a key role in many of my greatest accomplishments while serving as Tampa Bay's voice in the Congress. It was a proud day for all Floridians and Americans when we unveiled the Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune statue in the United States Capitol earlier this year—since the idea came about, Clay worked diligently with local and federal partners to ensure that one day all visitors to our nation's capital would learn about the historic excellence of Dr. Bethune. Clay's tireless efforts have supported the community he loves when it was most in need, including setting up foreclosure workshops that counseled local families on their financial problems during the recession and securing grants that have allowed Tampa to grow into the vibrant city it is today. Clay has been a constant presence in both Tampa and Washington, and he's known by all those he works with as a compassionate, quick-thinking team player. In lockstep with the priorities of our community, Clay has helped maintain the strong fabric of our community by supporting the working and middle-class workers who built Tampa into the bustling city it is today. A fierce friend and advocate for our brothers and sisters in labor, Clay worked on issues to boost pay and provide workplace protections for working Floridians.

I am grateful for Clay's career of service and the time that he's spent on my staff. He is a faithful friend and an unmatched public servant who will no doubt continue to serve as he begins the next chapter of his life. I would like to particularly thank his wife, Andrea, and daughter, Latham, for their patience and support of Clay and his work throughout the years.

Always ready with a JFK quote, timely pun or relevant Civil War fact—Clay created an environment for our staff to grow and serve. Known fondly for his "Clayisms", one our team knows well is that Mark Twain once said, "I didn't have time to write you a short letter, so I wrote you a long one." There is certainly no way to encapsulate the storied service of Clay Phillips in a concise blurb, so I am grateful that his legacy will continue through the policies that he helped craft and the lives that he touched.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to share with my colleagues a small slice of the incredible career of Clay Phillips. Our community and our country are forever better for his work.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

RECOGNIZING THE DEPARTURE OF
THE HONORABLE ANN O'BRIEN
KEIGHRAN FROM THE CITY
COUNCIL OF BURLINGAME

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ann O'Brien Keighran as she departs public service after 17 years on the Burlingame City Council, serving four times as Mayor, and another seven years as a planning commissioner. Ann has been a tireless advocate for Burlingame's quality of life and for business improvement.

Burlingame is a city with 30,000 residents who enjoy a small-town environment just a few miles south of bustling San Francisco. Its tree-lined avenues and older homes combine with outstanding schools to entice the region's entrepreneurs, professionals, and hard-working skilled workers to raise families in the midst of a beautiful environment. Ann was raised in Burlingame, graduated from Mercy High School, and attended the University of San Francisco where she earned her Master of Science in nursing. She later practiced at Sequoia Hospital and taught nursing at our local community college and the University of San Francisco.

During her combined 25 years on the planning commission and city council, she worked tirelessly with her colleagues to retain the small town feel of the community while also adapting it to the evolving economy. Ann's tenure on the council included final determination of the future of the city's golf course, ongoing work on the storm drain system to eliminate frequent flooding and growing the tax base by approving major new office and housing developments. How many hours in the public interest has Ann given over a quarter century of service? It's hard to estimate, but it's safe to say she had zero time to watch reruns streaming on Amazon.

Significant improvements created during her time in public service include a new Community Center. Discussion about this facility began when she first took office, waxed and waned through economic cycles, and finally resulted in a successful bond measure. The building opened this year and is stunning. Ann was one of the center's earliest and most consistent voices.

She supported other long-needed improvements, including the reconstruction of the Broadway/Highway 101 interchange and an enormous improvement to Burlingame Avenue, one of the city's central business districts. As she noted in her comments to the public upon announcing her retirement from public life, the Burlingame Avenue project, "... brought beauty and commerce together to delight shoppers and residents."

Ann and her colleagues approved a new Safeway, but not without controversy. Two years into her council service, her diplomacy was key to getting this reconstruction accomplished.

She fought hard to make California's High Speed Rail project amendable to Burlingame's needs and supported construction of affordable housing on a city parking lot and the creation of Peninsula Clean Energy. Her record of public and private contributions also in-

cludes serving on the fire board, as the council's ongoing liaison to the Chamber of Commerce, as the city/school liaison, as an advisor to our local shelter for women, on task forces for housing and universal healthcare coverage, and as a long-time parishioner in Our Lady of Angels Church. From dog parks to redesign of our grand boulevard, the El Camino Real, to serving as a basketball team coach at her children's school, she's done it all.

As she retires from public office, Ann should look back over her time in public service as one of tremendous accomplishment. She noted in announcing her retirement that she shares credit with Burlingame staff and her many colleagues on the council. This is true, but it understates the fact that she made difficult decisions without rancor and helped keep the community's finances sound when things were really tough over many years.

Looking forward, her adult children, Kerry and Kate Rose, will now have more time to spend with their mother. Ann will work in her position with the Center for Age Friendly Excellence, helping to guide communities to become healthier, more accessible places for seniors. Of course, her quiet leadership will be missed. Her biography notes that she's quite an accomplished Celtic dancer. Maybe now that the gavel on a dais no longer dominates her weeks, she will find time to concentrate on this skill. From 1998, when she joined the planning commission, to the present, Ann danced for us on the public stage. She was an accomplished public policymaker, a real leader, and she's a tough act to follow. I wish her well in the years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I missed the vote on the Further Continuing Appropriations bill due to a meeting. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 523.

CONGRATULATING FLORIDA
TECH'S CYBERSECURITY TEAM
ON THEIR EXTRAORDINARY
FIRST PLACE FINISH

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Florida Institute of Technology—L3Harris Institute for Assured Information student cybersecurity team, FITSEC, for their perfect accuracy, extraordinary score, and first place finish in this fall's 2022 National Cyber League tournament on November 6, 2022.

The National Cyber League team tournament is a biannual national competition. This year, 7,500 students from 470 institutions around the country competed to solve simulated, true-to-life cybersecurity problems. The National Cyber League assesses a team's ability to address nine critical cybersecurity workforce categories outlined in the NIST

NICE Cybersecurity Framework and the NSA Knowledge Units. Florida Tech students claimed victory with 100% accuracy and a score of 2,755 points out of 3,000. With this win, FITSEC has moved Florida Tech to the number one spot in the Cyber Power Rankings.

Founded by NASA scientists and located in the city of Melbourne on Florida's "Space Coast," Florida Tech has always been known for its strength and contributions in aerospace engineering and space science. More recently, the university has also earned its position as a leader in cybersecurity research and education. Home to the L3Harris Institute for Assured Information, Florida Tech has been recognized as a National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security "National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Research".

Florida Tech's rigorous undergraduate cyber operations curriculum, modeled after the NSA Cyber Operations Knowledge Units, is developing bright young minds that will most certainly be among our nation's future leaders in this field. It is good to know that students from my district in Brevard County will soon help solve the problems of tomorrow, like countering unchecked foreign threats, securing intellectual property and private information, and meeting the growing need for exceptional cybersecurity professionals in our nation's industries, agencies and government.

According to Florida Tech's provost, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Dr. Marco Carvalho: "The success of FITSEC underscores the value of collaborations between industry and academia, such as our L3Harris Institute for Assured Information. Here, we have some of the best computer scientists and software engineers in the world conducting cutting-edge research in cybersecurity, machine learning, and artificial intelligence. The same experts then teach, mentor and coach our FITSEC students. Finally, these students bring their skills to top U.S. companies and organizations, making invaluable contributions to the security and stability of vital information, systems, and resources."

Chair of the cybersecurity program Dr. TJ O'Connor, tells us: "The FITS EC cybersecurity team and cyber operations curriculum contribute to our national security and strength by building critical skills in the cybersecurity workforce gap. The L3Harris Institute of Assured Information and Florida Tech's commitment to excellence in this domain is proven by its successful track record, including the recent victory in the National Cyber League Team tournament, and resulting number one national ranking."

The 2022 Florida Institute of Technology's team was coached by Dr. O'Connor and consisted of 5 graduate and 2 undergraduate students in computer science, including Kourtnee Fernald, Joshua Connolly, Blake Janes, Logan Suarez, Stephen Brustowicz, Alexander Schmith, and Curtice Gough. Dr. Sneha Sudhakaran, Florida Tech assistant professor and expert in mobile security and forensics, served as a co-coach of the team this year as well.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Florida Tech and these student leaders on their outstanding accomplishments and wish them every success in the future.